

MICHIGAN FARMER

AND STATE JOURNAL OF AGRICULTURE.

JOHNSTONE & GIBBONS, Publishers

DETROIT, TUESDAY, JANUARY 30, 1883.

PRICE, \$1.65 PER YEAR

VOLUME XIV.

"PRACTICE WITH THEORY AND SCIENCE"

NUMBER 5.

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Agricultural.

A GOOD RECORD.

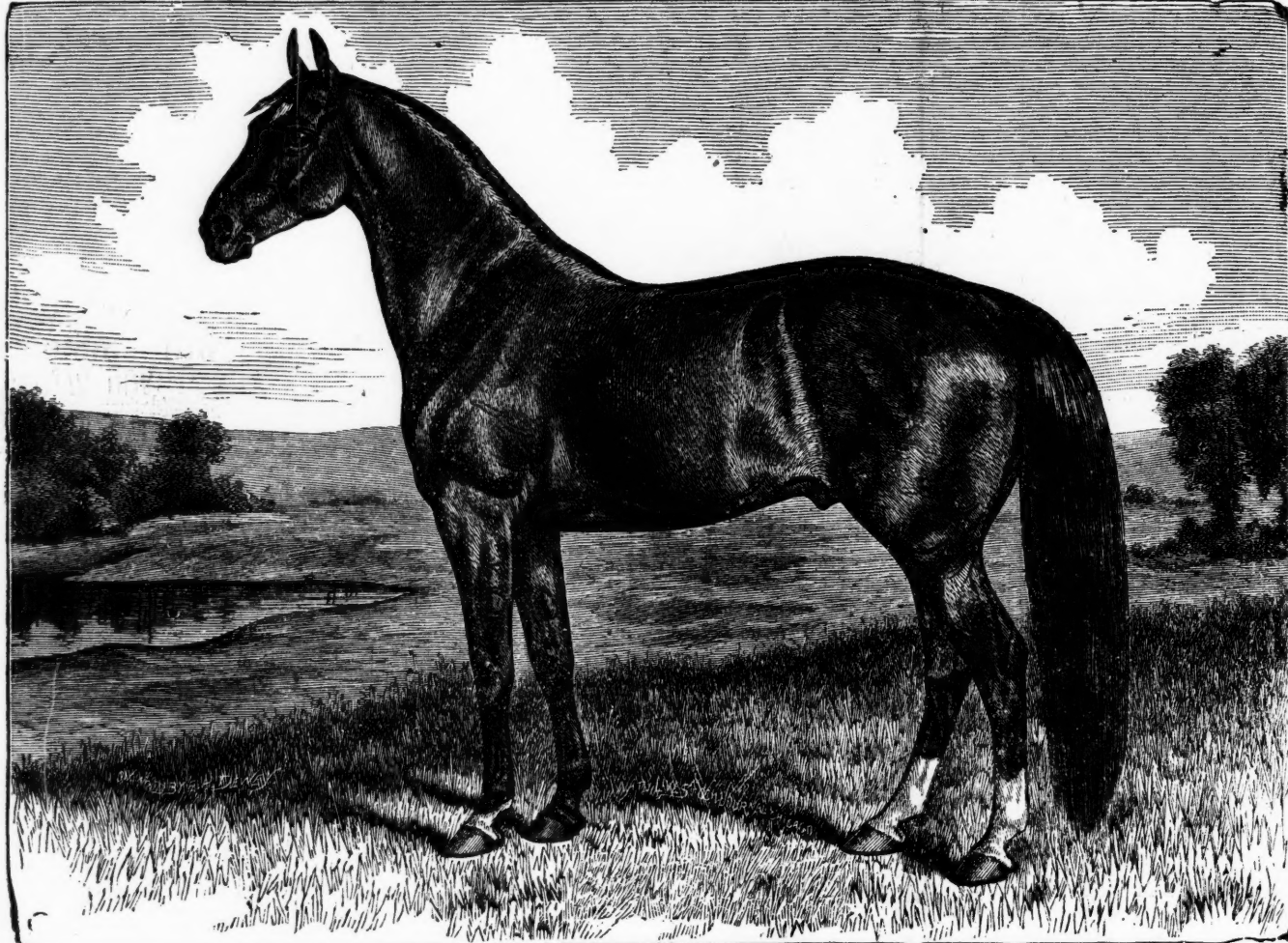
The Dutch-Friesian cow Paulina, owned by Mr. Thomas McGraw, of Bay City, two weeks ago dropped a bull calf—weight when dropped 134 lbs. The record of this cow is a wonderful one, and shows what can be accomplished with well-bred animals when properly managed and cared for. When two years old she dropped a heifer calf, weight 85 lbs. She gave 13,000 lbs. milk, and then dropped her second calf, a bull, weight 124 lbs. She gave 14,000 lbs. of milk, and now, as a four-year-old, drops her third calf, a bull, weight 134 lbs. Mr. Ueberhorst, Mr. McGraw's farmer, has authority from Mr. McGraw to take two bull calves, castrate them, feed and show them at the Chicago Fat Stock Show as yearlings and again as two-year-olds. The calf mentioned above will, in all probability, be one of them. And those who know Mr. Ueberhorst's ability as a feeder take occasion to notify Shorthorn and Hereford men, that there is a surprise coming.

AN ALLEGAN COUNTY STOCK FARM.

RANKIN, GENESSEE CO., January 18, 1883.
To the Editor of the Michigan Farmer.
I have lately been paying a visit to the farm of Mr. Levi Arnold, near Plainwell, Allegan County, and thought that what I saw there might be of interest to the readers of the FARMER. This farm is known as the Riverside Stock Farm, and on my arrival I found Mr. Arnold in company with a number of parties who had come to look over and buy stock. I was greatly surprised at the quality of the various kind of stock kept on this farm. The farm itself contains 570 acres, of the best of soil, and lies on both sides of the road. Mr. Arnold has about ten head of Jerseys, cows and younger animals, a number of nice high grade Shorthorns, 200 head of common grades and 75 head of fine wools that will shear from 12 to 20 lbs. per head. But the greatest show of all was the hogs, of which there were about 175 head on the place, and he is shipping from one to five per day to different parties who have ordered young stock for breeding. He certainly has the finest herd I ever saw. They run from young pigs of 30 lbs. to those of six hundred lbs., and vary in age from two months to two years. The most perfect hogs that can be imagined are to be found in this herd of Mr. Arnold's, and every one who goes there and sees them will be pleased beyond expectation. Mr. Arnold says he will forfeit \$1,000 to any one who can show a lot of hogs that will excel him in fineness of quality, evenness of color and general make up, and purity of breeding. In all these points I think Mr. Arnold's hogs will fill the bill to any one's taste. Visitors will find this a good place to go, and they will be certain of having a nice time. Mr. Arnold will be found well posted in his business and a good man to meet.
A. W. ALGER.

AN IMPORTANT MATTER.

To the Editor of the Michigan Farmer.
At the late State Fair at Jackson, two Ayrshire cows died suddenly. They were examined and reported upon by Alexander Murray, V. S., Texas; a splenic fever was the cause—a contagious disease. I watched the proceedings of the State Agricultural Society at Detroit lately, to see if any notice was taken of this fact, any action taken to prevent a like occurrence in the future, or word of warning given to State breeders to stay at home and not risk their herds—but in vain. Is it the intention to suppress such information and assume the risk? If so, I prefer to keep my stock at home in the future. If the watchman on the tower give not the alarm, and a contagious disease is thus introduced into the State, woe to those who have known the danger and remained silent. Better by far the State Agricultural Society perish than the introduction of such a disease.
Yours,
M. A.



Trotting Stallion Satellite, owned by Powell Brothers, Springboro, Crawford Co., Pa.

HOME GROWN SUGAR.

The lively interest exhibited everywhere in the culture of sorghum, seems to warrant the prediction that quite a large proportion of the sugar consumed by farmers will, at no distant day, be produced at home as one of the regular crops of the farm, as much as the flour of any of the other daily commodities of the table. There is no complaint that the sugar now handled by dealers is excessively dear, on the contrary it is as cheap as it ever has been considering the quality; had it been otherwise, more rapid strides would have been made toward sugar production from the cane. The manufacture of sirup has lately attained a degree of perfection among the most skillful manufacturers that will rank it with the very best article of sweets that has been produced from sugar cane.

There are doubtless more things yet to learn in both the cultivation and the working up of the cane, than have yet been found out, before the dry article of granulated sugar can become a certainty in the calculation. Every manufacturer is convinced that the production of sugar will sooner or later become a success. Many of the samples of sirup will granulate readily, which proves that this condition is a natural one, and when the right process is learned, the same results will follow every trial.

Those things that have been discovered to a certainty, especially in the cultivation of the cane, should be freely and fully published, so that the fewest possible mistakes shall be made the coming season. Many doubtless will grow cane another year, who have never grown it before, and they will need to know all the shoals and hindrances that have heretofore prevented the best results.

A very successful manufacturer of sirup, J. Sherard, of Paw Paw, has recently explained some of his processes of manufacture and methods of culture. He has preserved samples of a large number of jobs, which came to his mill this last season, and has preserved a history of the cane of each sample—the manner of cultivation, when cut, how long it stood after being stripped, how near the ground it was cut, what manures, if any were used, etc. He plants the last of May or the first of June on well prepared soil, which is sufficiently strong by previous good handling so as to insure a vigorous growth without the aid of manure. In every case where a dark sample of sirup was obtained, the cause was traced to an application of manures the same season. Even manure applied during a season of drouth, while it may not affect the cane product of that year, will give a dark sirup from cane grown on it the second year. It would seem that the fermentation attending the decomposition of manure effects in some manner a chemical change in the juices of the plant, which shows itself in the manufactured product. Here is a fruitful source of inquiry. It is very natural to suppose that while active nitrification is going on in the soil, the disturbance must affect and color the liquid plant food which it generates. This fact is proven by the dark color given to the foliage of plants grown on soils in such a condition. The mistake so often noticed is a very natural one; farmers have been accustomed to grow a crop for the seed or grain, and all vigorous growths go to increase and mature the natural source of reproduction; but when the juices of the plant are captured to gratify man's taste, the usual manipulation of the soil will not apply, and he is loth to believe that what he intended

would increase his yield has really spoiled the product.

Another peculiarity was discovered, that sirup manufactured in the middle of an extremely warm day was darker than that made in the morning or towards evening of the same day and from the same cause. A light colored sirup will turn dark if left to cool in closed deep vessels; it should be cooled in shallow pans as quickly as possible. Every manufacturer should have extensive sheds to cover the cane as it accumulates, as exposure to the sun and storms tends to sour and injure the quality of the product. It should stand on end rather than be piled lengthwise. Mr. S. worked up cane that had stood thus for 29 days unchanged, except two or three inches at the end that rested on the ground, this was cut off and the sirup was excellent. Cane should be cut as fast as it is stripped, or it will injure the product by discoloring and making it stringy. If it stands after it is stripped, the upflow of sap is arrested before it becomes cane juice by the action of the leaves, and begins a fermentation which reduces both the quality and quantity of saccharine matter present in the cane.

In cutting cane the top should be cut below the first joint, and six to eight inches from the ground. Both extremities are valueless and serve to injure the quality of the sirup. The grinding too often spoils the quality. When the mill is set too close, the juices from the outside shell are expressed with the pulp juices, and gives a green, woody taste to the sirup, which is often noticed and thought to be a natural and necessary, though very objectionable adjunct, of sorghum.

Doubtless every intelligent manufacturer, who aims at the very best production attainable, has learned each year something which he considers essential, and practices as one of the essentials to success. It is very evident that no try can start out in the manufacture of sirup or sugar from sorghum, any more than he can start a cheese factory with no previous knowledge, and expect to turn out a standard article of cheese. Men of experience must be employed, who can bring into use all the known appliances, and gather from what they do know other facts still unknown which shall advance the manufacture of home made sirup another step, and turn out the dry product of sugar. Although samples of very excellent sirup are produced, yet this does not satisfy the demand. It would seem that government aid should in some way assist private enterprise in solving a problem upon which so much depends.
A. C. G.

A REPLY TO "W."

KALAMAZOO, Mich., Jan. 26th, 1882.
To the Editor of the Michigan Farmer.

In answer to "W." in this week's FARMER I have to say, that if he will "show his hand," by giving his name and address, and confessing candidly that he needs enlightenment, I will cheerfully answer him, upon any point in my paper on which I may be able to do him good, or possibly some one else.

I think I have "W." well located; that I have seen the "smoke" from his "battery" before; but of course, I am only guessing, and I do not like to point my little pistol toward a "masked" battery without knowing how well the "battery" is "manned," and how heavily "charged." It would be better generalship to hide and keep still. Furthermore, I have no "ax to grind" nor do I propose to turn for some one else to "grind." I was simply acting as the servant of the programme committee and the associa-

tion, in preparing my paper, and did the best my time would allow at the work assigned me, as I understood it. I could have made cattle and horses "sicker" by taking more time.
Yours,
S. B. HAMMOND.

HOLSTEINS AS DAIRY COWS.

To the Editor of the Michigan Farmer.

I was very much interested in the report of the meeting of the Holstein Cattle Breeders' Association of Michigan, held in your city on the 10th inst., as given in the columns of the FARMER of the 16th. I am glad to see the interest manifested by the breeders of Michigan in this valuable breed of cattle. The letter read from Prof. W. J. Beal is of unusual interest, and denoted much thought and careful consideration of the subject. If his suggestions regarding the improvement of this breed of cattle are carefully considered and intelligently put into practice by each member of the Association, it will result in a marked improvement in this breed, not only in Michigan but throughout the country. Improvements are contagious and will in time infect the whole country. I am especially desirous that every breeder should carefully and thoroughly test his cows for butter. The fact that the Holstein breed surpasses all others for milk and cheese is established beyond a question, and I think is generally acknowledged even by those who are interested in other breeds.

On account of their enormous yield of milk they have usually gone into hands where quantity has been the object and have not usually been tested for butter; but I fully believe that when thoroughly tried they will establish their superiority in this respect. When tested they have generally surpassed the highest expectations of their most ardent admirers. The proportion of large records to the number of trials is remarkable. What other breeds of cows can show 20 pounds of butter in a week in December without any change of food for the trial, or 19 lbs. 8 ozs. for one of the coldest weeks of the winter, where the cream actually froze in the creamery where there was a coal fire? Several other quotations of 18 lbs. to 19 lbs. 15 ozs. could be given, also records of two-year-old heifers, 13 lbs. 3 ozs., 13 lbs. 6 ozs., and 14 lbs. 4 ozs., and after milking eleven months, of 11 lbs. 3 ozs. in a week. Such records, and many more which could be given, speak for themselves.

A general trial will bring out many more and probably still larger records. Of the superiority of the grades for beef there exists no doubt in the minds of those who are familiar with the breed, but the facts should be brought before the public. To do this, we must depend mostly on western breeders; no greater service can be rendered to those interested in Holsteins. I was very much edified and instructed in reading your report of Mr. Baldwin's interesting remarks. He offers valuable suggestions which will be of great assistance in selecting good animals, but I am sorry to be compelled to disagree with him in some important particulars. He says, in speaking of this breed in the Netherlands: "No animal was kept until over seven years, the farmers finding that the cows failed in their milk after that age." I would be very sorry indeed if this statement was correct that we must expect the Holstein cows to fail at seven years old; but we think it is an error. W. R. and W. J. Smith both assure me that they have frequently found elegant cows in full vigor and in their prime at a much greater age—frequently ten to twelve years old, and occasionally much older. The cow "Old Gertmel,"

the source from which sprung the Netherlands family, is a noted exception. She could have been seen in the pasture in Holland last summer in full vigor and health, a grand specimen of a beef cow, as square and straight as a Shorthorn, at the age of 20 years, having bred regularly for 18 years. Her 20th year was her first failure to breed, and she had become very fat on grass, ready for the butcher. We could mention some very superior cows in this country that were imported after they were past seven years of age. Many of the best records have been made by Holstein cows past seven years. Mr. Miller told the writer that Dowager at 14 years (if my memory is correct) was as good as ever, and he thought capable of making as good a record. Empress, at 10 years old, gave 81 lbs. in a day and 2,276 lbs. in a month. Johanna at eight or nine years old gave 88 lbs. a day and 2,407 lbs. in a month. Lady Clifden at 10 years old gave on November 6th, 7th, 8th, and 9th, 74, 77, 75, and 77 lbs. which exceeded her former records. Aegis at nine years old has given this winter in 30 days, 2,226 lbs. 11 ozs., which, considering the season of the year, exceeds anything she has heretofore done, although her record for six years old is the largest ever made in one year, excepting those of Aaggie and Aaggie 2d. Freida closed her record of over 16,000 lbs. a year at nine years old. The Holsteins are a vigorous race of cattle, and it is my opinion that they are usually as good at nine and ten years as at any other age. I am confident that seven to ten years is a better age than three to seven years. The Hollanders slaughter a large share of their cows by the time they are six to eight years old, but not because they fail at that age. As soon as they are satisfied that a cow is not superior she is turned to beef. They are also breeding more cattle than their farms will carry, and consider it policy to turn off the older, unless very superior, and retain the younger.

Mr. Baldwin also says: "Dairy animals should have crooked hind legs." "Another point is the shape of the ribs, they should not be rounded out in the case of dairy cattle, and the barrel therefore is not so round, but breeders must put up with these two points although not considered slightly." Here we beg to disagree. Holsteins can be bred straight, round, square, symmetrical without sacrificing any of their superior dairy qualities. Many of the largest records ever made by the Holstein breed have been by cows that are well rounded in the rib and with straight legs. We will note a few: Mr. Miller says "Outline is straight in leg and well rounded in rib. Empress and Nanny Smith are like her in this respect." Their records are: Outline, 904 lbs. in a day, 2,545 lbs. in 31 days. Empress, 81 lbs. in a day and 2,376 lbs. in a month. Nanny Smith, at two years old, 50 lbs. in one day, 1,293 lbs. in 30 days.

Messrs. Yeomans & Sons say in response to my inquiry: "Nearly all our largest milkers are straight in the leg, and well rounded in the rib and barrel. Aaggie 2d is very decidedly so in both respects. They specify the following: Queen of Wayne, eight years, 78 lbs. 8 ozs. one day, 14,549 lbs. 6 ozs. in 10 months and four days; Lady Walworth, eight years, 78 lbs. 12 ozs. in one day, 14,287 lbs. 5 ozs. in 10 months; Princess of Wayne, three years, 57 lbs. in one day, 14,008 lbs. 9 ozs. in 10 months and 20 days; Georgie, two years, 59 lbs. 6 ozs. in one day, 13,209 lbs. in 12 months; Sadie Vale, two years, 58 lbs. 14 ozs. in one day, 14,009 lbs. 5 ozs. in 12 months; Aaggie 2d, 61 lbs. 5 ozs. in one day, 17,746 lbs. 2 ozs. in 12 months.

The Netherlands family is a very marked exception to Mr. B.'s milk form. Over twenty of this family can be seen at the "Lakeside Stock Farm," all straight, with broad backs and hips, well rounded ribs and barrels, and with straight hind legs—all of sufficient age, and very deep milkers. Netherlands Queen as a two-year-old gave 58 lbs. 13 oz. in a day, 13,574 lbs. 3 oz. in a year, as a four-year-old 76 lbs. in a day, 15,614 lbs. 9 oz. in a year; as a five-year-old, in December 83 lbs. 4 oz. in a day, and 2,235 lbs. 4 oz. during the month. Netherlands Duchess, commencing in February at 22 months old, 45 lbs. 13 oz. in a day, 12,200 lbs. 4 oz. in a year. Netherlands Princess, three years old, 55 lbs. 14 oz. in a day and over 12,800 lbs. in ten months, and still giving 1,000 lbs. per month. Three two-year-old Netherlands heifers that dropped their calves in quarantine, are giving 38 lbs. to 41 lbs. a day this winter. Clothilde and Carlotta are also noted exceptions. Both are three years old. The former has given 60 lbs. in a day and over 13,800 lbs. in 10 months and still giving over 1,000 lbs. per month. Carlotta has given 57 lbs. in a day, and 11,000 in less than nine and one-half months, and still milking finely.

Careno, commencing at 23 months old, not acclimated, gave the day she was two years old, 49½ lbs., and over 9,800 lbs. in 9½ months. Duchess of Freiland, four years old, over 14,000 lbs. in a year, is also a marked exception. I could mention many more, but these are sufficient to show that large records and fine forms can be combined. Some breeders also claim that sloping rumps indicate superiority for the dairy, but neither a gothic rump on the sides or a mansard behind are evidences of such superiority. I am fully aware that many excellent cows and some of the very deepest milkers have flat ribs and crooked legs, but let us rather consider them a defect instead of a necessity, and to avoid rather than to cultivate them.

With proper care in breeding and selecting, is Sheep Breeding. This, undoubtedly, will combine beauty and symmetry with the highest degree of excellence for the dairy.
E. A. POWELL.

SHEEP BREEDING.

[Paper read by J. H. Thompson, of Grand Blanc, at the recent annual meeting of the Michigan Sheep Breeders' Association, held at Lansing, December, 1882.]

The subject given me, as has been announced, is Sheep Breeding. This, undoubtedly, will combine beauty and symmetry with the highest degree of excellence for the dairy. I have been asked to give you some of my thoughts and observations. I am fully aware that many excellent cows and some of the very deepest milkers have flat ribs and crooked legs, but let us rather consider them a defect instead of a necessity, and to avoid rather than to cultivate them.

The most important thing in starting a flock of thoroughbred sheep is in the first purchase. The first start, right or wrong, is very apt to decide the success or the failure of a young flock. It is a most important step should be studied carefully. Look well to the foundation of your flock; the mere fact of their being registered sheep is not sufficient proof that they are what we want for a foundation. The register, if carefully studied, is a godsend to the beginner in sheep breeding. To have a flock registered is to put its history on record, so that one can see in ten minutes' time where any flock there recorded trace, see whether, to three or four flocks, or to sixty, whether to flocks of good reputation or otherwise. But instead of careful study, it is not a fact that one-half of the first purchases made are by mere accident, or if studied at all, they figure to buy the cheapest registered sheep they can get. Can we wonder then that there are failures in sheep breeding? Is it not the history of many flocks throughout the United States that after being bred, fifteen or twenty years, they cannot be traced to flocks of undoubted purity, and are consequently branded as grades, or unfortunate thoroughbreds. I believe there is no business that so much depends upon the honor of men as the breeding of thoroughbred stock.

Having made our purchases, let us study well what there is of value in a thoroughbred sheep. Then let us strive in every cross, in every purchase, and every sale, to build our flock to our idea of what constitutes the best sheep. One of the first points of value in sheep is constitution; to obtain this we must have a deep prominent chest with broad shoulders; the second point is form; from the shoulders the back should be nearly on a straight line back to hips, with a broad bridge or coupling, with slightly sloping hip; a broad tail, with nearly a straight line from this point to hock; a broad flank with straight line from the chest to the hock, with two or three neck-folds. If folded upon the body, to begin about mid-way up the side and run well down under. Head broad between the eyes, and face heavy with wool to be covered with soft, velvety hair. In short, I would attain as near as possible to what breeders of Shorthorn cattle call a perfect animal.

This form should be covered with a thick, even quality of fine to medium wool, with staple from two to three inches in length, with a distinct crimp to the ends of fleece, where protected from the weather, with even coating over all; and with cap to come down about one and one-half inches below the eye and drop nearly square off; fleece to weigh from twelve to twenty-five pounds.

Breeding ewes at maturity should weigh in good condition, January 1st of each year, from 90 to 100 pounds. I know of some individual Merino ewes that weigh 125 to 135 pounds each.

From the great wool-producing States of the west and southwest comes the report of every dealer and producer: "We like your Michigan rams. They are large and strong, and acclimate well." Michigan grade ewes stand higher than most others for the same reason. Therefore I say let us look well to this point. Having described to you my idea of what we ought to attain in thoroughbred ewes, I now come to the point hardest to secure, a suitable stock ram. And right here let me say, is the stumbling block that causes the retrograde movement of more flocks than any other one thing. In sheep breeding, if we are not going ahead, we are going back; we cannot float along with the tide and keep even. In selecting a stock ram the first point is to trace his back-breeding, and see that his sires and dams are all well bred and good animals, as far back as possible, to the first importation if they can be. Right here comes the value of individual records of our sheep; it enables us to see what we are doing. I can remember well of being scoffed at for keeping individual pedigrees of sheep, before the State registers were started, and those same gentlemen said in my presence and the presence of others, that they cared nothing for a pedigree of sheep, farther than they carried upon their backs. Gentlemen, is not this contrary to all principles of thoroughbred sheep breeding?

Having given the first important points of a stock ram, I now proceed to the form. I would duplicate the form given of a middle ewe, but with heavier folds throughout; deeper in the flank with tracing folds on the sides, and upon part of hips; folds upon the sides should run well under the body, also two or three heavy collar folds running entirely around the neck; the neck should be broad and masculine from shoulder to horns; the shoulders in a fully matured stock ram should be a little prominent or sharp upon the upper part; fleece at full growth should be from two to two and one-half inches; even over all parts of the body, and of a little stronger or coarser quality than upon the ewes, with crimp equally distinct and an equal distribution of oil through all parts. The weight of a stock ram at maturity should be not less than 150 lbs., and as much larger as we can get a good proportioned animal. It has been said that we can not get an evenly covered sheep in one year, but this charge I deny. We can produce as evenly covered and good quality of fleece as upon the smaller ones; it has also been said that we cannot breed a fine fleece without a slender constitution, this also I deny. We can breed any one point to excel or excess, if we give our attention to that particular point. But it is very apt to be to the detriment of others.

Where I believe the most value in a thoroughbred sheep is to be obtained, is to breed a sheep combining the greatest number of points of merit, and so backed in its breeding, that it will reproduce itself in form and character when the blood is intermingled with other.

We frequently hear men say there is no stock ram worth \$1,000, \$100 or \$50; to that class I would answer as did the man when another made the assertion that he would as soon eat a skunk as a Merino, thoroughbred. The answer was, "Gentlemen, that is just as you have been brought up." The whole value of a stock sheep depends upon the position of our flocks and our ability to make it pay.

A sheep that costs \$1,000 for a man with grade ewes would be folly, but for a person who has 50 to 100 thoroughbred ewes, and has a reputation and trade to warrant it, if it be a good stock sheep, it is the cheapest ram he can buy. For instance, if he has different grades of grade flocks, can get a suitable ram at from \$20 to \$50 or \$75, and make it pay. While in conversation with a gentleman a few days ago, who has for the past nine years bought his stock sheep at one year old, paying from \$25, \$75 and \$100 each, he said to me, my "rams for that length of time have cost me but \$30." The key note to this is he has bought good ones and taken care of them, and sold them at a profit. They are just in their prime, and bought again.

A word to the breeders of grade sheep and I will close my already too long essay. Does it pay to keep a flock of sheep that shear five or six pounds of wool per head, when an outlay of from \$25 to \$50 dollars once in two years will bring that average up to ten or twelve pounds per head, upon an animal that would sell for double the money? and gentlemen, this is a fact. One flock in our vicinity clipped this year 12½ lbs. per head, and the three-year-old wethers would bring from six to eight dollars per head for mutton. That flock started with natives that would clip (if they did not lose the wool off their backs) 2½ lbs. per head they were offered this year \$12 per head for their yearling and two year old ewes, and they refused it. The owners of this flock voted this fall the free trade ticket, and they are now to compete with any foreign country. This, gentlemen, is the way to accomplish it.

Another Incubator Fraud.

A disinterested individual calling herself Mrs. Annie S. Carr has been furnishing the agricultural journals of the country with her alleged experience in the raising of poultry, in which she alludes to the incubator used, very innocently naming it as a help to those wishing to engage in the business. The FARMER saw "an axe to grind" in the letter, and declined to "turn grindstone" by publishing it. In the "Husbandman" of last week, S. E. Todd, of Orange, Essex Co., N. J., says: "I thought it passing strange that there should be a reliable incubator company so near my home, while I was utterly ignorant of its existence. I addressed an inquiry immediately to said company and inquired where I could find their office in Newark. Receiving no response I made inquiries at the post office and learned that there is no such company. Since that notice appeared, the postmaster at Newark received over eleven hundred letters addressed to 'C. S. Incubator Company.' As Newark is a large city, and as no letter was directed to a number of any street, the postmaster held them on suspicion, and when a representative of said Company called for letters he was arrested as a fraud. He has not yet been tried. I sincerely hope that it will not eventually transpire that Mrs. Carr's interesting communication was prepared in the interest of such a detestable fraud as that company."

The Farm.

CATTLE FEEDING.

BY COL. J. F. TRICE.

In the feeding qualities of the improved and unimproved breeds of cattle there is a greater difference in value than the average farmer, or most men other than butchers, feeders and shippers of fat cattle, think; and there is also a great difference in the feeding qualities of different individuals of the same breed, which I will allude to further on, under the head of quality. To show the difference in the breeding qualities of the different breeds, I will allude to a life-time experience in feeding the common "old-fashioned, old-time cattle" of the country, more particularly those grown in Illinois, more than twenty years ago, and in Kansas later, and also to an experience of some ten years feeding Texas cattle, and two years' experience in feeding cattle grown in the State of Oregon. In my native State (Illinois), prior to 1866, the average feeder of the common cattle of the country would feed a lot of steers three years old past, on corn with the fodder from the shock, (which, by the way, is a most excellent way to feed), for five or six months, consuming from 75 to 90 bushels of corn, making a gain of some 200 pounds. When ready for market they would make an average weight of 1200 or 1350 pounds. As the Short-horn blood has been diffused into all the common cattle of the country, we now see men engaged in feeding cattle all around the country who collect their breeding stock from the general farmers, most of all of which have some good blood in them. After feeding as of old, by somewhat different methods, (none of which are any better in my judgment than feeding corn on the stock), for five or six months, they will make an average gain of 350 or 400 pounds, and will weigh 1450 to 1500 lbs.; these weights are at the age of four years. If we take the high-grade, say three-fourths or seven-eighths Short-horn cross on the somewhat improved cattle of the country as we now find them, at the age of three years, (having commenced to fatten them the fall before), we have at the lowest estimate an average of 1500 pounds; and at four years, if we were to keep them so long, though it is not best to do so, we would not have less than 1800 pounds average.

The old-time scrub, when fat and weighing 1250 pounds, on our markets to-day would sell for five cents per pound and bring the seller \$62.50 per head. The common cattle of the country, by the improvement in blood and consequent increase in weight and improvement in quality, in the same market weigh 1450 pounds and sell at six cents—making \$87 per head; or the high-grade three-year-olds will readily sell one-half cent per lb. higher, owing to the better quality. Fifteen hundred pounds at six and a half cents, will make the snug sum of \$97.50 per head; or the high-grade steers at four years old, all stockmen know, will more readily sell at seven cents as exporters. Eighteen hundred pounds at seven cents, is \$126 per head. A novice in the stock or farming business, or a schoolboy, can easily see the difference. In short, the scrub of twenty years ago, is worth, when corn-fed, \$24.50 less than improved native steers of the same age, and \$35 less than the high-grade, with one less year's age, and \$5.50 less per head than the high-grade of the same age.

I appeal to the experience and judgment of every practical feeder of beef cattle for an endorsement of these figures and statements. And for a further verification, if it is not presuming too much, I will give some figures from my own memorandum-book pertaining to feeding operations. In September, 1878, I commenced corn-feeding while on the grass, 160 head, northern-wintered Texas steers, two years old past, of 800 pounds average, and fed four months and a half, when I had only made a gain of 102 pounds per head, and was compelled to sell for a very low price. From 1870 to 1875, I fed annually from two to three hundred well-matured and well-selected Texas steers. The average gain on five months' feeding on corn or corn and grass combined, was 200 pounds—about the same as the result of feeding "old-time, cold-blooded" native cattle.

In April, 1877, I weighed five head of thoroughbred Short-horn calves from ten to twelve months old; they weighed from 800 to 900 pounds each. They had made a growth of 75 pounds per month from birth. In 1879, I fed 80 head of steers on corn and prairie grass, from 1st of May to 20th of August—one fifth bushel of corn per day for first 45 days, and one-fourth bushel per day to each steer, for the balance of the time. They made a gain of three and one-third pounds per day, or 100 pounds per month for the entire time. The rapid gain I attribute to the fact that 66 per cent of the cattle were high-grade Short-horns, the gain on these being much more perceptible. I did not weigh separately. In August, 1880, I marketed 100 head three-year-olds that averaged 1465 pounds; 60 per cent of this herd were high-grade Short-horns, and weighed from 1500 to 1600 pounds. Three averaged over 1800, and one weighed over 2,000 pounds; and the grades would have averaged not less than 1650 pounds, and were worth three-fourths of a cent more than the other 40 per cent. In December, 1880, I sold 64 common three-year-olds past, and three high-grade steers only two years old past. The three grade two-year-olds weighed 1600 pounds each, and helped me materially to make the sale. The 64 head averaged 1300 pounds. In the same fall, 1880, I bought 12 head of steers, two years old past, of Fred. Dauber, 25 head two-year-olds, and eight head three-year-olds, of his neighbor, Mr. Kemp, both of northern part of Shawnee County. These steers were all bred and raised by these men. The eight head of three-year-olds of Mr. Kemp, and the 12 head of two-year-olds of Mr. Dauber, were by a thoroughbred Short-horn bull, owned by Mr. Dauber, and the 25 head of two-year-olds of Mr. Kemp were by a "cold-blooded scrub," owned by him. All these steers were out of cows

very much alike; of similar breeding, and were kept in the same way; in fact had ranged together and interbred. I kept both lots of two-year-olds together, and fed out in the spring, and corn-fed on grass till the next August, when the Dauber steers by the thoroughbred bull weighed 1450 pounds and sold at five cents, while the Kemp steers, of same age, and with same feed, only weighed 1250 pounds, and sold at four and a half cents. Here we have a difference of \$16.35 per head, plainly by the use of a good thoroughbred bull. The three-year-old steers of Kemp's, by the Dauber bull, and out of the mothers of the mean Kemp two-year-olds, were equally as good as the Dauber steers. In August, 1881, I sold a car of cattle, to be selected from 130 head, most of which were three-year-olds, and a few well-bred two-year-olds old past; the buyer selected a few two-year-olds old past, and left in my lot near 100 three-year-olds; he was taking them to ship. In September of that year I sold to the same party 100 head of cattle about one-half two, and one-half three-year-olds, and five head not yet two years old; the five head coming two years old were well-bred, had good qualities, and had been fed high from calfhood, and weighed 1200 pounds—as much as the herd averaged; they were the best steers in the sale, and were the main inducement to the buyer. In all these cases, except of the bull calves, the cattle had been corn-fed and were ready for market, and many of them, say one-half, were exported.

As to the quality of feeding cattle alluded to in the beginning, that is of as much importance as the breeding. In Short-horn literature we often see the term quality used, not to explain something in the pedigree or breeding, but as a thing of individual merit. M. F. Renick, who was the agent for the Ohio Importing Co. for the introduction into this country of Short-horn cattle as far back as 1834, thus closes a letter to Mr. Whitaker, of England, in speaking of cattle he wished to purchase and ship to Ohio: "We want none without fair pedigrees, but form and size they must have, or they will not be well received here. You will of course not forget the handling and quality." That veteran writer and Short-horn judge, T. C. Jones, of Ohio, says: "To those who are interested in the improvement of farm stock, it is gratifying to observe the progress that is being made in the dissemination of sound principles in regard to what constitutes excellence." Quality, while a good deal talked about as especially characteristic of certain fashionable strains, was really very little regarded except in what had become an absurd and technical sense, indicated by a soft hide and a yielding of flesh—properties that may usually be communicated by high feeding and grooming, while the real quality of the animal is quite inferior. But quality in the wider and more practical sense—meaning a thrifty, growing animal; a good feeder, with fine and dense boned structure, compact form, and easy distribution of fine-grained flesh all over the carcass—was seldom considered, and never given the controlling influence it should have in determining the excellence not only of cattle, but of all other meat-producing stock. The term "quality," as applied to cattle, is better understood in the abstract by feeders than by breeders of cattle; it is that property in a bullock which makes him susceptible of being fitted for the butcher in half the time, and at half the consumption of feed that is requisite to fit his coarse, rangy, growling, large-boned mate of same breeding, for the same purpose; it is the property invariably belonging to the animal with a low, level, broad carcass, of fair, but not of great size, on legs as short and as small as will support the animal. Right here we find a paradox: the smaller the bone in cattle the stronger they seem, and the more perfectly they perform their mission—act as it were as a running gear for the machinery they carry. There is a difference in the quality of the bone, as of all other organs. What feeder of steers does not know that he may collect a number of cattle of same age and breeding, and that at any stage of development of those cattle to the perfect condition for the butcher, he can sell the one half the herd with the better quality at a price ranging from half a dollar to a dollar more than the half with the poorer quality; or, to illustrate: After having fed the lot for three months, the one half with the better quality will be as mature as the other portion will be with two months' additional feed. During seasons of great scarcity of grain or food for fattening beefs for the butcher, as was the case in our State last spring, we see butchers culling the herds of stock cattle of the bullocks of good quality—those the farmers call the pony-built steers—using them on the block, though they had no preparation for that immediate end. I had two years' experience with a herd of 500 head of those fine, large, rangy fellows. They were grown in Oregon, and were three and four years old, and from color and general characteristics were evidently the produce of native cattle well graded up with Short-horn blood. After corn-feeding part of two winters and grazing one summer, and after they had attained the dignity of 1600 pounds and I had them in one of our city markets, I could hear the remark on every side: "What a fine lot of feeders these would make, but they are hardly fit to ship." To get this quality, besides having strict regard to other material points, we must especially guard against growing too much bone. Abram Renick, the world-famous breeder, says: "I would rather have a bull rather under than over, all else being equal." I have not a doubt this rule of his is especially guarding against too much bone has given that matchless family, "The Rose of Sharon"—cattle more than any other breed in the world remarkably uniform in quality—a family of Short-horns with feet and legs almost as small as those little pets, the Jerseys.

My advice is to fight shy of the breeder who advertises a 3,000 pound bull, or a 2800 pound bull, or even a 2600 pound bull, as standing at the head of his herd. From these observations, after a life-time's experience in breeding and feeding cattle, and some ten years' experience with Short-horns, I think we should look as much to the quality of our breeding cattle as to their pedigrees.—Report of Kansas State Board of Agriculture.

Feeding Hogs in Large Numbers, and for Profit.

A firm located in Sangamon Co., Ill., has been, according to the *Breeders' Gazette*, buying up large quantities of hogs for the purpose of fattening them for the Chicago market. The process is thus detailed:

"They have on hand about 875 head, ranging in weight from 180 to 300 pounds each. These are all allowed to run together in a lot of about four acres, once covered with timber, but now mostly cut off, leaving out trees enough for shade, etc., and yet sufficiently open to admit sunshine and a free circulation of air. They are fed on the ground with ear corn, sometimes old, that is, of last year, and sometimes new, jerked from the field with half the husks still on. Many of these hogs are afterwards collected by the hogs at different places, usually under the trees, and used by them for bedding. To prevent these beds becoming foul, a one-horse rake is driven through the ground every day, to collect the corn and husks, and these are then burned on the bedding places with the husks gathered there by the hogs. The smoke and ashes, as well as the charred corn made by these burnings, are believed to be conducive to the health of the hogs. They certainly tend to prevent the accumulation of vermin and to promote cleanliness.

"Beside the corn fed to the hogs, they have access at all times to well-supplied swill troughs. The lines of goers and comers to and from these are kept up almost constantly. Even during the night they are visited by many that are too shy to come by day. The swill is made of rye meal chiefly. To about fifteen hundred weight of rye meal is added one hundred weight of oil meal, and the whole made into swill, in large tanks, with cold water, and allowed to become slightly sour before being fed. Arrangements are now in progress for using hot water and steaming the meal. This, it is thought, will be an improvement as cold weather comes on.

"The troughs from which the swill is fed are arranged with slats on each side, the lower ends being nailed to the upper edge of the trough, and the upper ends to a long strip running the length of the trough, about fourteen inches above and directly over the middle. These slats are not placed opposite to each other, but are made to alternate. In this way no two hogs can face each other when from opposite sides. This arrangement of the slats seems completely to prevent the hogs from getting into the troughs with their feet, and also affords each a fair chance to feed without being crowded by his neighbor.

"In addition to the corn and swill given them, these hogs are turned into a meadow of about 100 acres every morning, where they are allowed to remain until about 10 A. M. Here they get another change of feed, and such exercise as seems needful for them.

"A more healthy and well-doing lot of hogs than these seldom sees. They are picked over from time to time, and such taken out for shipment as are deemed at their best. They usually average, when shipped, about 235 pounds each, in earload lots. As ripe hogs are taken out others are being put in. When new ones are bought they are put in a separate enclosure for about two weeks before being turned in with the large herd. This is done as a precaution against the introduction of disease from outside herds.

"Most of the hogs here are black, or nearly so. The proprietors are very decided in their preference for Berkshires and their crosses. They find them to fatten and round up more evenly than others. Essex, they say, are too small, and Poland Chinas are too coarse. White hogs they disparage altogether, although a few, perhaps two per cent., may be found among those being fed.

"The management here described seems to supply all needed conditions to success. It is practicable, and apparently as economical as any that could be devised. The remarkably fine weather for the past two months has rendered needless all expense for shelter. Besides the saving in this respect, the excellent health and thrift of the hogs, has, no doubt, been largely due to their freedom from the restraints and evils almost unavoidable when they are housed in bad weather."

The Chinch Bug.

Prof. Popenoe, State Entomologist of Kansas, and professor in the Kansas Agricultural College, furnishes to the Quarterly Report of the Kansas State Board of Agriculture, an article on the chinch bug, which was less destructive than usual to the crops of that State the past season. Prof. Popenoe says:

"This gratifying turn of affairs is generally ascribed to the abundance of rain during the season of attack, the theory being held that the bugs are drowned by rainfall. Whether this interpretation of the events is correct or not, is somewhat difficult to determine. There may be other causes than simple excess of moisture, that operate to check the growth or increase of the bugs in such a season as the past spring and summer. While there is reason to believe that much rain while the young bugs are still in the ground, about the base of the plant and on the upper portion of the roots, does draw many of them, it seems that a wet season acts as a check upon them in other ways than by simply drowning the young.

"Ordinarily the chinch bug, along with other insects that hibernate as adults, will endure considerable exposure to wet and cold without apparently suffering diminution of health or vigor. They may be frequently found in winter frozen solid in ice and packed snow, and they will upon being released by warmth become as active as usual. They will also suffer immersion in water for a considerable time, and still recover fully. When we remember that they are air-breathers, this fact is more curious. It will be remembered that in this connection, that the chinch bug, together with others of its order, succumb to the effects of the vapor of potassium cyanide with which the collecting bottle is charged, less rapidly than do bees, butterflies, and other more active and vigorous insects, showing its greater tenacity of life. These facts then may point to the conclusion that it is not altogether

due to the drowning-out by the rain, that the bugs are so much less destructive in wet than in dry weather.

"Years ago, Dr. Shimer, of Illinois, ventured the theory, based upon and sustained by his observations on the chinch bugs in 1865, that these insects, with others, were subject during wet seasons to a kind of epidemic disease, which only would account for their wholesale destruction in all stages of growth. This disease might be compared, perhaps, to the disease which often kills the silkworm in great numbers in the feeding rooms, and which, like most diseases of the kind among insects, is most destructive in moist weather.

"Prof. S. A. Forbes, State Entomologist of Illinois, judges that the cold, wet spring 'had the effect partly to delay the deposition of the eggs, and partly, perhaps, to destroy such as were laid.' He says, also, that 'it is to be feared that very much more reliance is generally placed upon the influence of wet weather in limiting the ravages of the bugs than the truth will warrant.' He discovers the common presence of an internal fungoid parasite—a *Bacterium*—in the chinch bug, which may be the cause of the destruction of the pest during the wet weather, so favorable to the spread of the fungus. This final statement accords closely with the theory proposed by Dr. Shimer, and also agrees with what seems to be the case with the destruction of the silkworm and other insects by fungoid parasites.

"Is it not probable, then, that Dr. Shimer was nearly right in his explanation of the disappearance of the bugs in a wet season, and that Prof. Forbes's *Bacterium* may be one of the prominent and efficient causes of their disappearance? Recent studies have greatly added to our knowledge of the extent of the distribution of these minute vegetable parasites, and of their effects upon the animal economy. They are shown to be intimately, and probably in most cases as a potent cause, associated with diseases in higher animals, and it seems reasonable to infer that a similar relation exists between them and insects of all kinds."

Prof. Forbes finds a weak emulsion of kerosene oil and soap suds, costing less than 4c. per gallon, is fatal to the chinch bug. The only difficulty is to find a cheap and easy way to apply it.

Keeping Butter.

In view of the immense amount of poor butter annually marketed, anything which gives information as to the best method of making and keeping this product ought to be read with attention and interest by our butter makers. The first essential to having butter keep without deterioration is to have it properly made. The following from the *American Cultivator* treats of its after handling:

"Vermont buttermakers practice two methods of packing butter for keeping. One is to salt and pack the product directly after churning, by which methods the butter will shrink away from the sides of the tub, and the vacancy thus created is to be filled with brine. Mr. Jameson would add more brine if necessary, and then weigh the butter down to prevent it from floating in the tub. I once had a neighbor who would pack his butter as soon as he made it, cover it with brine and then put a block of wood under the cover of each tub to keep it from floating, but he soon changed his practice. I knew another dairyman who claimed to have made a grand discovery, he filled large cisterns with brine, and put his butter into them as he made it, and in the fall packed into tubs and sent it to market but he did not practice this method only one year. Butter that has been kept in brine, when exposed to the air very soon becomes rancid. The tubs cannot be sent to market filled with brine. The buyer is obliged to turn off the brine to find the butter. The commission man will not be at the trouble of brining the butter the second time. The consumers do not wish to be at the trouble of keeping a pickle for the little packages of butter they purchase from time to time. The fancy rolls or prints that are covered with muslin or tissue paper would not be improved in appearance by being thrust into a pickle before going on the table.

"The second method of packing butter to keep is as follows: After churning and well working the salt into the butter with as little handling as possible, then set the butter away in a proper place for twelve or twenty-four hours. The salt becomes dissolved, the butter changes color and condition, and then a very little pressure will bring it into a dry, solid, waxy texture. Next pack the butter solid into tubs, properly prepared, putting a cloth over the top and over that spreading a paste of salt. There being but little moisture the salt on the surface does not dissolve but crystallizes, and will remain almost intact through the season. Place a close-fitting cover and set it a proper place for keeping, and it need not be opened until it reaches the consumer.

"For nearly twenty years I made butter for one firm and have shipped hundreds of packages prepared as above without opening them at the time of shipment. Since there was little or no brine in the tubs, and the packages being of a uniform size there was no difficulty in estimating the tare. I confess that in my method of making and selling butter I never had much experience in keeping it on my own hands; in fact, I cannot recollect of ever keeping a tub for a full year, yet the old gentleman who purchased my butter during so many years, frequently informed me that he sent packages to California, to St. Louis and to Washington, D. C., and that it always kept well and without complaint."

Agricultural Items.

A PRACTICAL farmer says that those who attempt to apply nitrogen in the form of blood and bones to restore worn-out land, or food for wheat, are paying from \$400 to \$500 per acre for it.

As common red clover matures its seed upon the second growth, failure may succeed because of drought, insects, or because the first growth was not cut early enough to permit the second to ripen its seed perfectly.

Dr. Hoxne advises the use of a lotion made by dissolving 2 drs. of arsenic and 2 drs. of

carbonate of potash in one quart of water, for lice on calves. There must be a quart of water when the ingredients are dissolved. Apply with a sponge.

As an illustration of the benefit of farmers' clubs, a correspondent of the *Kansas Farmer* says: "A few years ago one of the most prominent market gardeners of New York stated that his way of gathering turnips was a saving of two cents a bushel over any other method that he knew of, and for the benefit of others, he gave it to the Farmers' Club of that city. It was also published in the papers. In a few weeks a number from the country sent in their way, and he afterward told the club that he had found others as far ahead of him as he thought he was ahead of those in his vicinity."

A CORRESPONDENT of the *New England Farmer* says: "Owing to the peculiar structure of the cow's digestive organs, when meal is fed alone, instead of going into the first stomach where the hay goes and remaining until it is remasticated, it goes directly to the third and thence to the fourth stomach. The consequence is that the meal is not subjected to the softening process which the hay undergoes, and which would render it more easily digestible. Where considerable meal is fed, a portion of it is liable to be imperfectly digested and thus occasion loss. By wetting the meal and hay and mixing them together before feeding, the meal will be eaten along with the hay and will be subjected to the whole digestive process. It is believed that by thus feeding the cows, more meal can be digested without disturbance of the digestive organs, and consequently more milk obtained than by feeding the meal separately."

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RHEUMATISM, NEURALGIA, CRAMPS, Sprains, Bruises, Burns and Scalds, Sciatica, Backache, Frosted Feet and Ears, and all other Pains and Aches.

It is a sure cure for Galls, Strains, Scratches, Sores, &c., and HORSES. One trial will prove its merits. Its effects are INSTANTANEOUS. Every sufferer should give satisfaction. Send address for pamphlet. Price, 50c. per bottle. Sold everywhere. Hiram, Johnson & Lord, Proprietors, Burlington, Vt.

VEGETABLE SEEDS
For Home Gardens. Our Improved Cotton, Corn, Beans, Peas, Potatoes, etc., are the best and most reliable. Send for your copy today. It is a must for every household. Price, 50c. per copy. Send for your copy today.

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NEW ADVERTISEMENTS

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THREE TROUBLES.

Three carpets hung waving in the breeze,
Abroad in the breeze as the sun went down;
And three husbands, with patches of dirt on their
knees,
Whacked whacks that were heard for miles up
and down.
For men must work and women must clean,
And the carpets be beaten, no matter how mean,
While the neighbors do the boasting.
Three housewives leaned out of their windows
raised—
Of their windows raised, where the light stream-
ed in;
And they scrubbed and scrubbed until their heads
grew dazed,
And their ears were filled with a horrible din.
For the pots will fall, and kettles go bang,
And boilers roar in the attic to bang,
While the husbands do the swearing.
Three husbands went out in the haymows to hide—
In the haymows to hide, where their wives ne'er
looked.
Each said, as he rolled himself over on his side,
"I guess I'll snooze, for I know I am booked.
For men may swear, but women may dust;
And before I move that stove that I must
I'll stay right here till morning!"
Three judges sat on their benches to judge
Three cases that came from a house-cleaning row.
The parties asserted they never would budge,
But wanted divorces "right here and right now."
So the men went off, and the women went home,
And hereafter will do their housecleaning alone,
While their former partners snicker.
—Yonkers Statesman.

The Bad Boy in Love.

"Are you a Christian?" asked the bad
boy of the grocery man, as that gentleman
was placing vegetables out in front of the
grocery one morning.
"Well, I hope so," answered the grocery
man. "I try to do what is right, and hope
to wear the golden crown when the time
comes to close my books."
"Then how is it that you put out a box
of great big sweet potatoes, and when we
order some and they come to the table
they are little bits of things, not big-
ger than a radish? Do you expect to get
to heaven on such small potatoes when
you use big ones for signs?" asked the boy,
as he took out a silk handkerchief and
brushed a speck of dust off his nicely
black shoes.
The grocery man blushed and said he
did not mean to take any advantage
of his customers. He said it must have
been a mistake of the boy that delivers
groceries.
"Then you must hire the boy to make
mistakes, for it has been so every time
we have had sweet potatoes for five years,"
said the boy. "And about green corn.
You have a few ears stripped down to
show how nice and plump it is, and if
we order a dozen ears there are only two
that have got any corn on at all, and pa
and ma gets them, and the rest of us have
to chew cobs. Do you hope to wear a
crown of glory on that kind of corn?"
"Oh, such things will happen," said the
grocery man with a laugh. "But don't
let's talk about heaven. Let's talk about
the other place. How's things over to
your house? And say, what's the matter
with you? You are all dressed up and
have got a clean shirt on and your shoes
blackened, and I notice your pants are not
raveled out so at the bottom of the legs
behind. You are not in love, are you?"
"Well, I should smile," said the boy,
as he looked in a small mirror on the
counter, covered with flyspecks. "A girl
got mashed on me, and ma says it is good
for a boy who hasn't got no sister to be
in love with a girl, and so I kind of tum-
bled to myself, and she don't go nowhere
without I go with her. I take her to
dancing school and everywhere, and she
loves me like a housewife. Say, was you
ever in love? Makes a fellow feel queer,
don't it? Well, sir, the first time I went
home with her I put my arm around her,
and, honest, it scared me. It was just like
when you take hold of the handles of an
electric battery, and you can't let go till
the man turns the knob. Honest, I was
just as weak as a cat. I thought she had
needles in her belt, and was going to take
my arm away, but it was just like if it was
glued on. I asked her if she felt that way
too, she said she used to, but it was nothing
when you got used to it. That made
me mad. But she is older than me, and
knows more about it. When I was going
to leave her at the gate she kissed me, and
that was worse than putting my arm
around her. By gosh, I trembled all over
just like I had chills, but I was as warm as
toast. She wouldn't let go for as much as a
minute, and I was tired as though I had
been carrying coal up stairs. I didn't
want to go home at all, but she said it
would be the best way for me to go home
and come again the next day, and the
next morning I went to her house before
any of them were up, and her pa came out
to let the cat in, and I asked him what
time his girl got up, and he laughed and
said I had got it bad, and that I had better
go home and not be picked till I got ripe.
Say, how much does it cost to get mar-
ried?" —Puck's Sun.

Burdette's Council to His Son.

My son, when you hear a man growling
and sobbing because Moody gets \$200 a
week for preaching Christianity, you will
perceive he never worships a minute be-
cause Ingersoll gets \$200 a night for
preaching atheism. You will observe the
man who is utterly shocked because Francis
Murphy is paid \$150 a week for temper-
ance work, seems to think it is all right
when a bar-tender takes in twice as much
in a single day. The laborer is worthy of
his hire, my boy, and he is just as worthy
of it in the pulpit as he is on the stump.
Is the man who is honestly trying to save
your immortal soul worth less than the
man who is trying his level best to go to
Congress? Isn't Moody doing as good
work as Ingersoll? Isn't John B. Gough
as much the friend of humanity and so-
ciety as the bar-tender? Do you want to
get all the good in the world for nothing
so that you may be able to pay a high price
for the bad? Remember, my boy, the
good things in the world are always the
cheapest. Spring water costs less than
corn whiskey; a box of cigars will buy two
or three bibles; a gallon of oil brandy
costs more than a barrel of flour; a full
hand at poker often costs a man more in
twenty minutes than his church subscrip-
tion amounts to in three years; a State
election costs more than a revival
of religion. You can sleep in church
every morning if you are mean enough to

dead-beat your lodgings in that way, but
a nap in a Pullman car costs you two dol-
lars every time; fifty cents for the circus
and a penny for the little ones to put into
the missionary box; one dollar for the
theater and a pair of old trousers, frayed
at the ends, baggy as to the knees, and
utterly bursted as to the dome, for the
latter suffers; the dancing lady who tries
to wear the skirt of her dress under her
arms and the waist around her knees and
kicks her slippers over the orchestra chairs
every night, gets \$500 a week, and the
city missionary gets \$500 a year; the horse
scoops \$2,000 the first day, and the church
fals last a week, works 25 or 30 of the
best women in America nearly to death,
and comes out \$60 in debt—why, my boy,
if you ever find yourself sneering and
scolding because once in while you hear
of a preacher getting a living, or even a
luxurious salary, or a temperance worker
making money, go out into the darkness
and feel ashamed of yourself, and if you
don't feel above kicking a mean man, kick
yourself. Precious little does religion
and charity cost the old world, my boy,
and when the money it does get is flung
into its face, like a bone to a dog, the
donor is not benefited by the gift, and the
receiver is not, and certainly should not
be grateful.

How to Advertise.

A Hartford, Conn., man was denounc-
ing newspaper advertising to a crowd of
listeners.
"Last week," said he, "I had an um-
brella stolen from the vestibule of the
church. It was a gift, and valuing it
very highly, I spent double its worth in
advertising, but I have not recovered it."
"How did you word the advertisement?"
asked a merchant.

"Here it is," said the man, "producing a
slip cut from a newspaper.
The merchant took it, and read:
"Lost from the vestibule of the
church, last Sunday evening, a black silk
umbrella. The gentleman who took it
will be handsomely rewarded by leaving
it at No. — San Fernando Street."
"Now," said the merchant, "I am a
liberal advertiser, and have always found
it paid me well. A great deal depends
upon the manner in which an advertise-
ment is put. Let us try for your umbrella
again, and if you do not then acknowledge
that advertising pays, I will purchase you
a new one."

The merchant then took a slip of paper
from his pocket and wrote:
"If the man who was seen to take an
umbrella from the vestibule of the
church, last Sunday, does not wish to get
into trouble, and have a stain cast upon
the Christian character which he values so
highly, he will return it at once to No. —
San Fernando Street. He is well
known."

This duly appeared in the paper, and
the following morning the man was as-
tonished when he opened the front door
of his residence. On the porch lay at
least a dozen umbrellas, of all shades and
sizes, that had been thrown in from the
sidewalk, while the front yard was liter-
ally paved with umbrellas. Many of
them had notes attached to them, saying
that they had been taken by mistake, and
begging the loser to keep the little affair
quiet.

VARIETIES.

It has been asserted by scientific surgeons
that the will-power of a sick man has a
great deal to do with his dying, and the case of
O'Connor is cited as evidence. A still stronger
case occurred in Michigan the past summer.
An old man, living in the northern part of
the State, got out of a lot of timber many years
ago for a toll-road company, but the company
failed and left him in the lurch. For years
and years he tried to sell the timber to this one
or that, but no one wanted it, and at last time
and decay rendered the beams almost worthless.
Last summer the supervisors of that county
advertised for proposals to build a bridge, and
the old man put in a bid. While waiting to see
what would be done, he was taken very sick,
and grew worse so rapidly that a council of
doctors was called. After due deliberation he
was informed that he was approaching his
end.

"When will I know about the bridge?" he
coolly asked.

"The bids will be opened to-day."

"Well, I'll send John over to see who gets
the job, and my living or dying will depend on
his news."

At five o'clock in the afternoon the son
and the family physician arrived in company. The
old man was neither better nor worse.

"Well?" he asked, as John approached.

"Our bid was accepted, father."

"And we've got the job?"

"Yes; but the doctor says you can't live."

"I can't, eh? I'm not only going to build
that bridge, but I'm going to work that square
timber in it up to the last foot, or my name
isn't John Rogers!"

MANAGER DORMEINE here gave a parting
dinner to his company, and toward the end
of the dinner Brasseur said to Lheritier: "I lay
you a wager that I disguise myself so com-
pletely that nobody here shall be able to recognize
me—not even you!" on which he slipped out of
the room. Five minutes later coffee was served.
The waiter who poured it out—a big young
fellow, with black whiskers, thick eyebrows,
crisp curling hair, and the bronzed complexion
of a Southerner—flashed no doubt by the
quality of the assembled guests, committed clumsi-
ness on clumsiness, upsetting a liquor-glass
here and a cup there, and finished by sending a
splash of scalding coffee on the shirt-front of
the amphitryon. A storm of reprobation was
raised. "Donkey! Imbecile! Cretin!" "Can't
you mind what you are about?" "Blunder-
head! Brute! Oyster!" The unfortunate waiter
excused himself as well as he could, with the
strongest Marcelline accent. The incident was
forgotten and conversation resumed. But
after a few minutes, as if not knowing what
he was doing, the offender took up a lump of
sugar between his finger and thumb and dipped
it in Lheritier's cup of coffee. The latter sprang
to his feet enraged, seized the insolent waiter
by the collar, and pushed him toward the door.
But, with the turn of the hand, the other
whipped off his wig and whiskers and cried: "Sold,
old comrade! Admit that you have lost the
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Mr. SIMPSON, a grocer in Kalamazoo, was
in the habit of taking breakfast in his back-shop.
One morning George Dick, the new apprentice,
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punctually as usual, his master showed no
signs of retiring to the back-shop. Fearing the
breakfast was getting spoiled, he looks into the
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and cries:

"Master, your porridge is come."

Mr. Simpson, affronted at this announcement,
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moving his hat, he advanced to the table and
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"Messrs. Directors, individually you are
clever sort of men, but collectively you are a
set of damned liars, and I can prove it."

With this he went out—Cape Ann (Mass.)
Advertiser.

A SQUARE BET.—When the telegraph com-
pany notified the Chicago bucket-shop proprie-
tors that they could no longer have the Board
of Trade quotations, nor the use of the "tick-
er," except under the new restrictions, one gay
young proprietor exclaimed:

"I'll bet they don't take my 'ticker' out of
my office!"

"What will you bet?" exclaimed a broker.

"Bet? Why, I'll bet my soul against a rotten
apple," he replied.

"Good for you," said a dry old gent, who
was sitting by the stove. "I'm glad to find a
man who doesn't want the best of it all the
time, but is willing to bet on an even thing."

The roar that followed could be heard for ten
miles—by telephone.

MR. PRINDLE, a government employee at the
White House, enjoys the distinction of having
been mistaken for the President. The other
day a newly married couple from the Hoosier
State visited the mansion and were shown
through by Mr. Prindle with his usual courtesy.
Just as they were leaving, the groom turned to
the guide, and, handing him a \$1 bill, said ef-
fensively:

"Take that, Mr. Arthur, take that! If I'd a
come and seen you before election, darned if I
wouldn't voted for you!"

And before Mr. Prindle could catch his
breath the happy twain had stepped out into
the falling snow.

"I would like to be excused, your honor,"
said a Chicago man who had been drawn on a
jury.

"What for?"

"I owe a man five dollars and I want to hunt
him up and pay it."

"Do you mean to say you would hunt up a
man to pay a bill, instead of waiting for him
to hunt you up?"

"Yes, your honor."

"Do you belong in Chicago?"

"Yes, sir."

"You are excused. I don't want any man
on the jury who will lie like that."—Philadel-
phia Times.

Chaff.

The telegraph cannot sing, but it can beat
time.

If every tree is known by its fruit, what kind
of fruit does an axletree bear?

What do the wild waves say? Why, prob-
ably, "We cost a dollar and a half at the hair
store."

There is a good deal said about there being
plenty of room at the top, but the question is,
"Where's the ladder?"

Why is a pretty girl like a locomotive engine?
Because she sends off the sparks, transports
the mails, has a train following her, and passes
over the plain!

Bacon has said that reading makes a full
man, and many restaurant keepers have adopt-
ed the plan of supplying their customers with
the morning paper.

Rev. Joseph Cook is described by the Gospel
Banner as "the Boston gentleman who gave
the plan on which the universe was created his
unqualified personal endorsement."

"Why are those things on your dress called
buttons?" (George) "Buttons?"

"Oh," Emily replied, lightly, "because pa
blows so over the bill."—Burlington Hawkeye.

One of the quizzical weeklies notes that
Christine Nilsson wears a sad and troubled
expression, with my living or dying will depend on
his news."

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and the family physician arrived in company. The
old man was neither better nor worse.

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"Oh, you don't want to go into business,
do you?" said an angry Cockney father to
his son and longed to say, "You want to go
into business in the post office, do you? Post
office, indeed! Why, all you're fit for is to
be a lousy clerk, with your tongue out, for
people to wet their stamps against!"

A seven-year-old South Boston boy tried in
vain for a long time the other evening to get
his opinions heard upon a subject that was en-
gaging the earnest attention of some ladies at
his home. Becoming tired of the incessant
talk of one lady he at last was duly recognized
by asking her: "Who holds the key to your
jaw?"

A petulant woman, who accidentally broke
the handle of a china cup, rashly exclaimed that
she wished none of them had handles. Later
on it became necessary for the serving-maid to
explain matters, and she proceeded to do so
by saying: "Indeed, marm, and ye said ye'd
prefer to have the handles all off, and ye see I
have done it rale noice."

Ayer's Sarsaparilla wonderfully improves
the complexion and brings to old and young
the bloom of health. As a purifier of the blood,
it has no equal.

The Household.

CONSERVATIVE VIEWS.

The thoughtful observer notes, in his
retrospective moods, the greater liberty of
individual thought and action of the
present, as contrasted with the subser-
vency and "follow my leader" policy of
the past. Formerly, a person whose ideas
were not in harmony with those of his
neighbors was looked upon with suspicion.
To belong to a church not that of the
majority, or one in advance of the popu-
lar thought of the locality, to be hetero-
dox in the matter of medicine, or politi-
cally "out of the fold," was almost equal
to social ostracism. But it has been found
essential to our national success, that, re-
ceiving as we do people of all sorts and
conditions, manners and customs, we
should have the greatest tolerance com-
patible with law and order, for these dif-
fering opinions and beliefs, neither ex-
pecting nor desiring that every one shall
conform to our customs or adopt our
opinions.

But in spite of our liberality as a nation,
there are many people who go to make up
the sum total of our population who hold
extremely illiberal views, especially on
matters of belief, or those on which they
have formed an opinion. The tendency of
the human mind to run to extremes is a
curious psychological fact; to many peo-
ple there is no middle ground, a thing
must be all wrong or all right. This we
note not only in opinions, but in friend-
ships; they require those whom they de-
signate as friends to, as they phrase it,
"stand by through thick and thin." Any-
thing short of a complete endorsement
will not answer, it is treachery to their
interests, and the lukewarm adherent is
scornfully repudiated as not a "true
friend." Their opinions, once formed,
are like the laws of the Medes and Per-
sians, which "alter not;" no weight of
argument, no change of circumstances,
avail toward a revision.

Probably there have been as many bitter
things said about dancing, theatre-going
and card playing, the three great amuse-
ments of the social world, as of those im-
portant crises which affect the standing of
nations. The trouble is that many very
good and truly conscientious people will
not take a sensibly conservative view of
amusements, and do as by other things,
accept the good and leave out the bad,
and so actually harm their own cause by
their ill-advised championship. They
must be able to embrace the most ob-
jectionable features, or condemn in toto,
in short, there is no middle ground which
they will accept; yet temperance on mat-
ters of opinion is as much a virtue as ab-
stinence from intoxicants.

In the reply to "Young Reader," which
has drawn out several letters on the sub-
ject of dancing, the view taken was cer-
tainly conservative: "When it is good,
it is good, and when it is bad, it is bad!"
Under proper circumstances and with
proper surroundings I see no harm in it,
but I would not approve of public parties
where the bar is an adjunct to the ballroom
and where morning dawns on the revel.

In consideration of this question we
must take into account the natural glee of
youth, a trait we mark in the young of
animals as well, and also, the underlying
principle of an old saying, "Forbidden
pleasures are sweetest." There is some-
thing irresistibly attractive about any-
thing which is prohibited, especially if
the interdicted joy be something which
we see others enjoying with enthusiasm
and without detriment. It remains for
the natural guardians of young people to
consider whether it is wisest to shut them
off from the amusements of their associates
by arbitrary rules, or provide them
similar pleasures under conditions which
render them morally harmless. For my
own part, I most thoroughly approve the
course of a gentleman of my acquaintance
when his two pretty daughters became of
age to begin to go into society. He felt
he could not permit them, at their extreme
youth and in their inexperience, to go out
alone, attended only by a gentleman
escort. Yet all their friends and intimates
were attending little dancing parties, and
naturally enough the girls were wild to
go too. He chose a middle course. He
resigned his evening paper, cigar and
slippers, and took his daughters to parties
himself. There he was able to see that
they formed no improper acquaintances,
that they were not rude or boisterous,
that they returned at a proper hour; in
short, he exercised over them that super-
vision which, if more general, would pre-
vent many a scandal, and much ruin of
young lives. The girls were proud to be
attended by their father, with his courtly,
"old school" ways, and other girls were
not averse to chatting or dancing with
this elderly man with grown up daughters,
in spite of the popular idea that they care
only for smiles from young men.

As a contrast, a few miles away, a
daughter of a man who "didn't believe in
young folks gadding" and considered
dancing one of the seven deadly sins, was
climbing out the back window and
down a ladder from the woodshed roof, to
join her escort—fornication—the house-
wife her parents supposed her in her
room. Comment is unnecessary.

It is a mistake to believe young and old

cannot mix pleasantly in dancing parties;
they do at church socials and similar en-
tertainments, why not here? The natural
exuberance of youthful spirits would be
somewhat restrained—wisely so—by the
presence of the elders, while the latter
would find themselves "rubbing off"
some superfluous dignity and stiffness.
To me there is something very pleasant
in the sight of a sober-minded matron
growing young again as she joins with
the young people in their sports, thus as
it were bridging over the gulf which our
social relations as a rule make far too wide
between young and old. I like to see a
middle aged, even a white-haired man,
forgetting his years, his cares, his busi-
ness, and renewing his youth among his
own and his neighbors' children. It does
him good; it helps him to be sympathetic
and companionable to younger people,
and to judge the "folly of youth" with
leniency, since he is not allowed to for-
get he was once young—and presumably
foolish—himself. These "old folks"
may not, it is true, have many years to
live, yet it does not follow that they will
be better prepared to meet death by al-
ways anticipating it, and making mental
arrangements for a first class funeral.
Nor do I believe we have a right to judge
of the sincerity of a person's religious
faith by a "dancing standard." It is
emphatically a matter of conscience, and
we may safely quote, "He that judgeth
me is the Lord." In fact, since clergy-
men, our accepted teachers in morals, dis-
agree, some permitting, some forbidding,
what better can we do than decide by that
inward monitor which seldom fails to guide
us right?

One who has written upon this subject
in the FARMER sees no reason why the
pastor of a church should not invoke the
Divine blessing upon the proceedings of a
respectable dance. Perhaps this may be
an "extreme," yet it is difficult to see
why it would not be as proper to do so in
this instance, as to ask it upon many
meetings where it is invoked; a free love
convention, for instance, or a church fair
where lotteries and raffles, both against the
spirit if not the letter of the common
law, are employed to replenish a depleted
exchequer. I note among my State papers
of last week that in a little village in Oak-
land County "the boys" gave a "social
hop," the proceeds of which, some eight
teen dollars, they gave to the clergyman
who had preached to them occasionally.
There is no mention of a refusal on his
part to accept the donation, and unless he
condemned the method of raising it,
there was no reason why he should not
accept. The liberal spirit of the age is
dominant, and will soon drive out the
remnants of Puritanical intolerance,
which in the days of the Pilgrim Fathers
forbade a woman to kiss her child on a
Sunday, and the eating of mince pies at
Christmas, and which made life a narrow,
cheerless, unlovely existence, with the
bottomless pit or a hard, inflexible, un-
forgiving God at the end of it.

BEATRIX.

A CORROBORATIVE OPINION.

Though for some time absent from the
Household, I have each week caught a few
minutes from a busy life to read the chat
of the members, and have often felt the
desire to join in the passing discussion of
the various themes under consideration.

Sickness, with all its cares, anxieties and
responsibilities, has settled down in a
lingering but exacting form in another
home, but in the person of a dear relative,
and all the strength and time possible
to be spared from home, has been devoted
to his help and care. Just now at home
for a short rest, I have been reading
Beatrice's counsel to a young lady:

"Don't marry a man to save him," and I
wish to second the advice with the intense
earnestness of positive conviction of its
truth. If a young man will not refrain
from vice or folly for the sake of the girl
he loves, he will not for the sake of a
wife. It is only a weak, selfish man who
would ask such a thing of a woman, and
the influence of the girl he hopes to win
is stronger than that of the wife he holds
in assured possession.

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Sulphate of Lime	1.50
Chloride of Calcium	1.50
Chloride of Magnesium	1.52


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